

Interview Summary

Application No.

10/089,402

Applicant(s)

AKIYAMA ET AL.

Examiner

Peter Vincent Agustin

Art Unit

2652

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) Peter Agustin (USPTO).

(3) Dhiren Odedra.

(2) Brian Miller, PE (USPTO).

(4) Yuko Watanabe.

Date of Interview: 16 March 2005.

Type: a) ☐ Telephonic b) ☐ Video Conference

c) ☒ Personal [copy given to: 1) ☐ applicant 2) ☒ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) ☐ Yes e) ☒ No.

If Yes, brief description: _____.

Claim(s) discussed: claim 5, and proposed new claims 7-9.

Identification of prior art discussed: Yanagihara et al., Tsukamoto et al.


Agreement with respect to the claims f) ☐ was reached. g) ☐ was not reached. h) ☒ N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: See Continuation Sheet.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.



Examiner's signature, if required

Summary of Record of Interview Requirements

Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), Section 713.04, Substance of Interview Must be Made of Record

A complete written statement as to the substance of any face-to-face, video conference, or telephone interview with regard to an application must be made of record in the application whether or not an agreement with the examiner was reached at the interview.

Title 37 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1.133 Interviews

Paragraph (b)

In every instance where reconsideration is requested in view of an interview with an examiner, a complete written statement of the reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action must be filed by the applicant. An interview does not remove the necessity for reply to Office action as specified in §§ 1.111, 1.135. (35 U.S.C. 132)

37 CFR §1.2 Business to be transacted in writing.

All business with the Patent or Trademark Office should be transacted in writing. The personal attendance of applicants or their attorneys or agents at the Patent and Trademark Office is unnecessary. The action of the Patent and Trademark Office will be based exclusively on the written record in the Office. No attention will be paid to any alleged oral promise, stipulation, or understanding in relation to which there is disagreement or doubt.

The action of the Patent and Trademark Office cannot be based exclusively on the written record in the Office if that record is itself incomplete through the failure to record the substance of interviews.

It is the responsibility of the applicant or the attorney or agent to make the substance of an interview of record in the application file, unless the examiner indicates he or she will do so. It is the examiner's responsibility to see that such a record is made and to correct material inaccuracies which bear directly on the question of patentability.

Examiners must complete an Interview Summary Form for each interview held where a matter of substance has been discussed during the interview by checking the appropriate boxes and filling in the blanks. Discussions regarding only procedural matters, directed solely to restriction requirements for which interview recordation is otherwise provided for in Section 812.01 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, or pointing out typographical errors or unreadable script in Office actions or the like, are excluded from the interview recordation procedures below. Where the substance of an interview is completely recorded in an Examiners Amendment, no separate Interview Summary Record is required.

The Interview Summary Form shall be given an appropriate Paper No., placed in the right hand portion of the file, and listed on the "Contents" section of the file wrapper. In a personal interview, a duplicate of the Form is given to the applicant (or attorney or agent) at the conclusion of the interview. In the case of a telephone or video-conference interview, the copy is mailed to the applicant's correspondence address either with or prior to the next official communication. If additional correspondence from the examiner is not likely before an allowance or if other circumstances dictate, the Form should be mailed promptly after the interview rather than with the next official communication.

The Form provides for recordation of the following information:

- Application Number (Series Code and Serial Number)
- Name of applicant
- Name of examiner
- Date of interview
- Type of interview (telephonic, video-conference, or personal)
- Name of participant(s) (applicant, attorney or agent, examiner, other PTO personnel, etc.)
- An indication whether or not an exhibit was shown or a demonstration conducted
- An identification of the specific prior art discussed
- An indication whether an agreement was reached and if so, a description of the general nature of the agreement (may be by attachment of a copy of amendments or claims agreed as being allowable). Note: Agreement as to allowability is tentative and does not restrict further action by the examiner to the contrary.
- The signature of the examiner who conducted the interview (if Form is not an attachment to a signed Office action)

It is desirable that the examiner orally remind the applicant of his or her obligation to record the substance of the interview of each case. It should be noted, however, that the Interview Summary Form will not normally be considered a complete and proper recordation of the interview unless it includes, or is supplemented by the applicant or the examiner to include, all of the applicable items required below concerning the substance of the interview.

A complete and proper recordation of the substance of any interview should include at least the following applicable items:

- 1) A brief description of the nature of any exhibit shown or any demonstration conducted,
- 2) an identification of the claims discussed,
- 3) an identification of the specific prior art discussed,
- 4) an identification of the principal proposed amendments of a substantive nature discussed, unless these are already described on the Interview Summary Form completed by the Examiner,
- 5) a brief identification of the general thrust of the principal arguments presented to the examiner,
(The identification of arguments need not be lengthy or elaborate. A verbatim or highly detailed description of the arguments is not required. The identification of the arguments is sufficient if the general nature or thrust of the principal arguments made to the examiner can be understood in the context of the application file. Of course, the applicant may desire to emphasize and fully describe those arguments which he or she feels were or might be persuasive to the examiner.)
- 6) a general indication of any other pertinent matters discussed, and
- 7) if appropriate, the general results or outcome of the interview unless already described in the Interview Summary Form completed by the examiner.

Examiners are expected to carefully review the applicant's record of the substance of an interview. If the record is not complete and accurate, the examiner will give the applicant an extendable one month time period to correct the record.

Examiner to Check for Accuracy

If the claims are allowable for other reasons of record, the examiner should send a letter setting forth the examiner's version of the statement attributed to him or her. If the record is complete and accurate, the examiner should place the indication, "Interview Record OK" on the paper recording the substance of the interview along with the date and the examiner's initials.

Continuation of Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: In regard to claim 5, the previous rejection was traversed. Examiner Miller suggested incorporating the term "simultaneous" into the amendment to clearly distinguish against the applied reference. Proposed new claim 7 will be added to try to more clearly describe first and second address demodulating circuits of claim 5. Proposed new claims 8 and 9 were discussed, which correspond to Figures 6A, 6B and 7 of the instant specification. The new features of claims 8 and 9 (see attached proposal) will attempt to overcome the rejection under Yanagihara et al.

PROPOSED CLAIMS FOR PERSONAL INTERVIEW

APPLICATION SERIAL NO. 10/089,402

[P23301-09]

5. (AMENDED) An optical disk device for recording, reproducing or erasing information [in which information is recorded, reproduced, or erased] by

irradiating an optical recording medium with a laser beam, comprising:

an optical head for focusing a laser beam on the recording medium to obtain a reproduction signal using the laser beam reflected from the recording medium;

a photo detector provided in the optical head having light receiving parts divided into two parts in a direction parallel to tracks on the recording medium;

a summing amplifier for generating a sum signal of electric signals output from the two light receiving parts;

a differential amplifier for generating a difference signal of electric signals output from the two light receiving parts;

a first address demodulating circuit for demodulating address information using the sum signal; and

a second address demodulating circuit for demodulating address information using the difference signal.

7. (NEW) An optical disk device for recording, reproducing or erasing information by irradiating an optical recording medium with a laser beam, comprising:

an optical head for focusing a laser beam on the recording medium to obtain a reproduction signal using the laser beam reflected from the recording medium;

a photo detector provided in the optical head having light receiving parts divided into two parts in a direction parallel to tracks on the recording medium;

a summing amplifier for generating a sum signal of electric signals output from the two light receiving parts;

a differential amplifier for generating a difference signal of electric signals output from the two light receiving parts;

a first address demodulating circuit for demodulating address information based on the sum signal; and

a second address demodulating circuit for demodulating address information based on the difference signal;

the address information demodulated by said second address demodulating circuit being the same as the address information demodulated by said first address demodulating circuit.

8. (NEW) An optical recording medium for recording, reproducing, or erasing information by irradiation with a laser beam, comprising:

a disk-shape substrate including a recording layer;

information tracks including groove tracks and land tracks that are arranged alternately in a form of a spiral or concentric circles on said substrate, a track pitch of the groove tracks being approximately equal to a track pitch of the land tracks;

strings of address pits on said substrate, center lines of said strings of the address pits being arranged so that the center lines of said strings of the address pits are radially shifted a distance of about one-half of the track pitch of the groove tracks or the land tracks from the center lines of the groove tracks and the land tracks; and

a sum signal of an electric signal from a reflected laser beam obtained by irradiating the laser beam on said optical recording medium while rotating said optical recording medium satisfies the following formula:

$$0 \leq X1 = (| I1\beta - I1\alpha |) / 2I1\max \leq 0.05$$

$I1\beta$: a voltage difference between a value that is the highest in a portion of a waveform having a maximum amplitude of the sum signal and a value that is the highest portion of a waveform having a minimum amplitude of the sum signal;

$I1\alpha$: a voltage difference between a value that is the lowest in a portion of the waveform having the minimum amplitude of the sum signal and a

value that is the lowest in a portion of the waveform having the maximum amplitude of the sum signal;

I_{1max} : a maximum amplitude of the sum signal; and

X_1 : asymmetry value.

9. (NEW) An optical recording medium for recording, reproducing, or erasing information by irradiation with a laser beam, comprising:

a disk-shape substrate including a recording layer;

information tracks including groove tracks and land tracks that are arranged alternately in a form of a spiral or concentric circles on said substrate, a track pitch of the groove tracks being approximately equal to a track pitch of the land tracks;

strings of address pits on said substrate, center lines of said strings of the address pits being arranged so that the center lines of said strings of the address pits are radially shifted a distance of about one-half of the track pitch of the groove tracks or the land tracks from center lines of the groove tracks and the land tracks; and

a difference signal of an electric signal from a reflected laser beam obtained by irradiating the laser beam on said optical recording medium while rotating said optical recording medium satisfies the following formula:

$$-0.05 \leq X_2 = (I_{2\beta} - I_{2\alpha}) / 2I_{2\max} \leq 0$$

$I_{2\alpha}$: a voltage difference between a value that is the highest in a portion of a waveform having a maximum amplitude of the difference signal and a value that is the highest portion of a waveform having a minimum amplitude of the difference signal;

$I_{2\beta}$: a voltage difference between a value that is the lowest in a portion of the waveform having the minimum amplitude of the difference signal and a value that is the lowest in a portion of the waveform having the maximum amplitude of the difference signal;

$I_{2\max}$: a maximum amplitude of the difference signal; and

X_2 : asymmetry value.